

Remarks

Applicant has reviewed and considered the Office Action dated March 5, 2002, claims 1, 25, 27-29, 44- 46 are amended, claim 23 is canceled, claims 24, 32, and 40 are withdrawn, claim 29 is a dependent claim of the claims 1 and 27. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 25, 27, 28, and 46 are rejected under 35U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The claims 1, 25, 27, 28, and 46 have been amended.

Claims 1, 25 and 27 are subcombination claim of a tray for a plant pot.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brankovic.

Claim 1 has been amended. Claim 1 is directed to a self watering tray for a regular plant pot, the tray apparatus includes a plate, at least one support, and a wick, the plate having side wall(s) and a bottom wall, the at least one support makes enough space for reserving fluid in the tray. In Brankovic's invention, the apparatus includes a plate, numerical 7 and 8, for holding a molded body; a molded body, numerical 1, holding water; apertures, numerical 6, on lower end of molded body to let air get in and water get out of the water tank; spacers, numerical 9, let water get into wick area, and a wick, numerical 12, sucking water to a pot. The differences between the two inventions are: 1, Brankovic claim and disclose a molded body for reserving water, but no such molded body appeared, or say do not need such molded body in the present invention; 2, Brankovic claim and disclose the spacers let water get into wick area, Brankovic does not claim or disclose the spacers 9 make enough space for reserving enough water in the tray; In present invention, the support makes enough space for reserving enough water in the tray.

Obviously, the present invention is different with Brankovic's invention and patentable over Brankovic's invention. Claim 29 is a dependent claim of claim 1, also patentable over Brankovic's invention.

Claims 25, 28, and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gargner et al.

Claim 25 has been amended. Claim 25 is directed to a self watering tray for a regular pot, the tray apparatus includes side walls, a bottom wall, and a wick, the shape of the tray is different with a pot, parts of side walls directly support a pot. Gardner disclose: " This container has in the upper part a border (2) on which plate (3) rests. Plate (3) has a central opening capable of containing the vessel (4) which is inserted in the central opening up to the rest of its peripheral border which has a diameter (5) greater than the opening." (lines 25 to 31, column 2). In Gardner's invention, a pot hold by a plate(3), the plate supported by the upper part a border(2), but no such plate and border appeared in the present invention. Clearly, in Gardner's invention: A pot does not directly supported by side walls of the tray. Obviously, the present invention is completely different with the Gardner's invention and patentable over Gardner's invention. Claims 28 and 46 are dependent claims of the claim 25, also patentable over Gardner's invention.

Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nichtnennung.

Claim 27 has been amended. Claim 27 is directed to a self watering tray for a regular pot, the tray having side walls and a bottom wall, and a leg, the leg having two sections, up section and low section, the up section is smaller than the low section, a shoulder between the up section and low section supporting a plant pot while the up section inserted into a bottom hole of a plant pot. Nicht disclose: ".....a cage.....inserted

through an aperture in the bottom of the pot,.Beneath the point(22, 24) at which the cage is connected to a support(40) for cage and pot. In the present invention, No such support appeared. In present invention, a leg is directly coupled in a tray, the leg supports a pot by the shoulder while its up section inserted into a bottom hole of a pot. In Nichts invention, the cage and pot are supported by a support. Clearly, Nicht's self watering apparatus for a pot is completely different with the present invention.

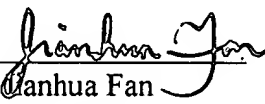
In view of the above, claim 1 is patentable over Brankovic's invention, claim 25 is patentable over Gardner's invention, claim 27 is patentable over Nicht's invention. Other claims are dependent claims, all patentable.

therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 25, 27-29, 44-46 are patentably distinguishes over the cited references.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and a favorable response are respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted

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